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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Polish-Occupied Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Drig Airfield

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 12 July to 23 August 1951

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 19 October 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED] 25X1A

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 One sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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SOURCE [REDACTED] 25X1X

1. On 19 and 20 July and on 8, 19, and 23 August 1951, Drig airfield was occupied by 80 to 100 Soviet jet aircraft, presumably low-wing monoplanes, with large air intakes, swept-back wings and rounded off wing tips. Their rudder assemblies faired into the fuselage at a 15 to 20 degree angle and were 1 meter from the rear of the fuselage. The elevator assemblies were fitted in the upper third of the rudder assemblies. The planes had a nose wheel and a landing gear retracting inward. Some of the aircraft were gray blue. No markings were seen except for the red Soviet star. (1)
2. There was intensive flying in good weather. Formation flying conducted in two flights of four planes each and in three flights of three planes each was mostly observed. The planes usually took off individually at intervals of a half of a minute while the individual landings were made at irregular intervals.
3. The east-west extension of the field was 4.5 to 5 km while the north-south extension was 2 to 3 km. The northern portion of Pampitz (P 51/H 79) as far as the Kleino River, the southern portion of Hermsdorf (P 51/H 89) and the western portion of Schuesselndorf (P 51/H 89) were evacuated by the civilian population. The eastern section of the landing field was lower than its western part. The field was provided with two E-W concrete runways, about 50 meters wide. The northern runway was about 2,500 meters long, the southern about 2,000 meters. The two runways were connected by a concrete taxiway about 300 meters long and 20 to 25 meters wide. A taxiway, about 300 meters long, led from the northern runway to the five hangars located on the northern edge of the field. (2) The eastern hangar was camouflaged while the other four hangars were dark in color. Cement pipes about 30 cm in diameter were along the eastern edge of the northern runway. Excavation work was observed about 5 meters south of this runway. No aircraft revetments were seen. (3) Some of the aircraft were parked in four rows of nine planes each in the southern portion of the field. Only obstacle lights were observed. (4)
4. The field which was allegedly enlarged in the late summer of 1951 was occupied by a Soviet air unit. Fifty civilian workers were seen constructing two buildings on old foundations north of the hangars. No billets were observed at the field. There was a stationary radio installation in the southeastern part of the field, and a mobile radio installation in the western section. A cable about 3 cm in diameter was along the road leading from the field to the north to a former German high school in the town. The school was occupied to capacity by Soviet Air

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Force soldiers. Ten to twelve telephone lines led from the airfield to the town.

5. The soldiers stationed at the airfield were quartered in the former German barracks installations located in the western part of the town between the railroad line and the highway to Breslau. Six large three-story barracks buildings which were occupied to capacity and which were being reconditioned were observed. Three large garages housing 16 searchlights about 1.5 meters in diameter and mounted on trucks were seen north of the barracks installations. The personnel operating the ~~searchlights~~ were quartered in the air force barracks buildings. A large white C was painted on the side of the searchlight trucks. Two of the

25X1B

6. The sector of the town located southwest of the main railroad station which was evacuated by the civilian population was occupied by Soviet officers and soldiers. The entire area had many telephone lines and was guarded by sentries. A street northeast of the main railroad station, which had also been evacuated by the civilians, quartered officers and EM that were stationed at the airfield. (6)

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8. On 8 August, crates about 4.5 x 1.5 x 2 meters were being unloaded from 50 railroad cars near the main railroad station by 40 to 50 air force soldiers. The crates were loaded by means of a mobile crane on 20 to 25 trucks which proceeded to the airfield. (8)
9. The barracks installations located in the southeastern portion of the town between the railroad line and the highway to Oppeln (P 51/D 17) quartered Polish troops.


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Comments.

- (1) The report supports the assumption that two fighter regiments equipped with MIG-15s are stationed at the field. The detailed information on these planes as furnished by source appears credible.
- (2) The report indicates that Brieg airfield was enlarged toward the east beyond the Brieg-Pampitz highway after the war. The runway was also extended considerably. The construction of a second runway in the southern portion of the field is reported for the first time. It was only known that a taxiway was along the northern, eastern and southern edges of the landing field. It is therefore believed that the second runway reported by source actually was the southern taxiway and that the northern section of this taxiway could not be seen from the southeastern corner of the field from where source made his observations. The turn to the northeast in the eastern section of the runway cannot be explained. An extension of the runway to an aircraft dispersal area is probably concerned. Only the portion of the runway west of the Brieg-Pampitz road is believed to be used for take-offs and landings particularly since the eastern portion of the landing field is lower than its western section. For sketch of the field, see Annex.

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- (3) The drainage work indicates that the improvement of the airfield had not been completed.
- (4) **Probably no night flights were** made during the period of observation.
- (5) The presence in Brieg of a searchlight unit was reported previously.

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- (6) The extensive requisitioning of billets in Brieg and around the field as well as the observation of numerous telephone lines indicate that a high-echelon headquarters is located there in addition to the two fighter regiments. This headquarters, probably a fighter division headquarters, is believed to be located in the former German high school.

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- (7) The motor vehicle  reported have been observed in the Polish-occupied territory of Germany. 

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- (8) These crates may have contained jet engines either of the fighter regiments, or, what appears more probable, of an aircraft park.

1 Annex: One sketch on ditto.

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